

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 05772 081703Z

60

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DOTE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-05

GSA-01 /069 W

----- 058403

R 081645Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8649

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONGEN DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONGEN JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY GABARONE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5772

E.O. 11652: XGDS2

TAGS: ECON, ELTN, EARL, EMIN

SUBJECT: MINERALS SHIPMENTS FROM SHABA

REF: KINSHASA 5461

1. ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE IN SOZACOM, THE BENGUELA RAILROAD EXPECTS TO HAVE THE CAPACITY TO CARRY ZAIRE'S EXPORTS AT 55 PERCENT OF PRE-WAR CAPACITY AND IMPORTS AT 60 PERCENT OF PRE-WAR CAPACITY FOLLOWING A MID-JULY RESUMPTION OF SERVICE TO ZAIRE.

SOZACOM WILL TRY ITS FIRST EXPORT SHIPMENT AT THE END OF JULY. THIS SHIPMENT WILL PROBABLY BE MANGANESE ORE, WHICH HAS BEEN STOCKPILED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINSHA 05772 081703Z

PENDING REOPENING OF THE BENGUELA. MANGANESE SHIPMENTS WILL BEGIN

AT THE 13,000 MT/MONTH LEVEL AND RISE TO 20,000 MT/MONTH.
AT THE PRESENT TIME SOZACOM HAS NO PLANS TO USE THE BENGUELA RAILROAD FOR COPPER EXPORTS, DUE TO THE HIGH VALUE OF THE COPPER (IN COMPARISON WITH MANGANESE) AND ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE ZAIRIAN ECONOMY, WHILE CONCERN CONTINUES FOR THE LINE'S SECURITY. SOURCE ADDED THAT ZAMBIA IS NOT EXPECTED TO USE THE LINE BECAUSE OF SECURITY QUESTIONS AND REMAINING DIFFERENCES WITH ANGOLA.

2. COMMENT: MANGANESE ORE IS A HIGH VOLUME, LOW VALUE PRODUCT WHICH CAN BE PROFITABLY EXPORTED ONLY VIA THE BENGUELA RAILROAD (15,000 MT HAVE BEEN STRANDED IN LOBITO SINCE MID-1975) AND AS SUCH IS A LOGICAL CANDIDATE FOR TESTING THE RAILROAD'S OPERATION. PRODUCTION OF MANGANESE HAS CONTINUED, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO EXPORTATION SINCE THE BENGUELA RAILROAD CEASED OPERATIONS INTO ZAIRE DURING AUGUST 1975. DURING 1974, THE LAST FULL YEAR OF SHIPMENTS, ZAIRE EXPORTED 287,734 MT OF MANGANESE ORE WORTH APPROXIMATELY US \$5 MILLION. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING THE RECENT MEETING OF THE MIXED-ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN COMMISSION DISCUSSED RESUMPTION OF SERVICE ON THE BENGUELA RAILROAD BUT NO OFFICIAL DATE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR THE REOPENING.
CUTLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINING INDUSTRY, RAIL TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA05772
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760264-0286
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760780/aaaacsgp.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KINSHASA 5461
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINERALS SHIPMENTS FROM SHABA
TAGS: ECON, ELTN, EMIN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006